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BEFORE THE TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF OREGON

4 In the Matter of the )  
5 Teaching License of )           DEFAULT ORDER  
6 SHIRLEY N. WOOD       )           SUSPENDING LICENSE  
7                                )  
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9 On or about September 2, 1998, the Teacher Standards and Practices Commission received a  
10 complaint from Dennis Douglass, Superintendent of Douglas ESD, indicating that Shirley N.  
11 Wood had violated her contract by failing to provide 60 days' written notice prior to resignation.  
12 According to the ESD, Ms. Wood was offered renewal of her contract on February 24, 1998 and  
13 accepted and signed the offer of contract renewal on March 19, 1998. Due to late conclusion of  
14 negotiations, individual employment contracts were not issued until August, so Ms. Wood did  
15 not sign an actual contract for the 1998-99 school year. On August 17, 1998, Ms. Wood  
16 submitted her resignation as a speech and language pathologist for "personal and family  
17 reasons" without providing 60 days' written notice.

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19 Under OAR 584-050-0020, the Commission informs the educator of intent to suspend the  
20 license on the basis of such complaints. The Executive Director took action to notify Ms. Wood  
21 of intent to suspend her Teaching License, and to inform Ms. Wood of her opportunity for  
22 hearing by letter dated September 22, 1998. The letter was sent by Certified Mail—Return  
23 Receipt Requested #P 412 422 524. The receipt was signed on September 24, 1998 and  
24 returned to TSPC. Ms. Wood requested a hearing and a tentative hearing date was set for  
25 December 22, 1998. On November 4, 1998, Ms. Wood withdrew her request for hearing in a  
26 letter faxed to Charlene Smith.

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FINDINGS OF FACT

- 30 1. On or about March 19, 1998 signed an offer of contract renewal from July 1998 to  
31 June 1999, under terms and conditions of board policy and the applicable collective  
32 bargaining agreement with the Douglas ESD for the 1998-99 School year.  
33  
34 2. On August 17, 1998, Ms. Wood submitted a letter of resignation effective immediately  
35 from her position as a speech and language pathologist for Douglas ESD. Ms. Wood did  
36 not report for duty subsequent to her letter of August 17, 1998.  
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38 3. Meeting in regular session on August 27, 1998, the Douglas ESD School Board of  
39 Directors took action to seek a suspension of Ms. Wood's teaching license for the  
40 balance of the 1998-99 school year and accept her resignation.  
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42 4. The Douglas ESD School District informed TSPC of this action in a letter dated  
43 September 2, 1998, requesting the suspension of Shirley N. Wood's Teaching License.  
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ULTIMATE FINDINGS OF FACT

47 Shirley N. Wood was offered and signed a renewal of contract offer with the Douglas ESD  
48 School District on March 19, 1998. Ms Wood submitted a letter of resignation, dated August  
49 17, 1998, without giving 60 days written notice and did not report for duty subsequent to  
50 resignation.  
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CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

ORS 342.553 requires the suspension of a license for the balance of the school year for failure to provide 60 days' notice prior to resignation. If the charge of the contract violation is proven, and justification for the contract violation is not satisfactory, the Commission is required to suspend the license for the remainder of the school year. The Commission's decision is final.

ORDER

The Commission suspends the Oregon Teaching License #278305, issued to Shirley N. Wood, , until June 30, 1999, for violation of contract by resignation without providing 60 days' written notice.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1998.

TEACHER STANDARDS AND PRACTICES COMMISSION

By David V. Myton  
David V. Myton, Executive Director

DVM/cs

ACTION OF THE COMMISSION TO SUSPEND LICENSES FOR CONTRACT VIOLATIONS UNDER ORS 342.553 ARE FINAL AND MAY NOT BE APPEALED.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I served the foregoing order by mailing a true copy thereof certified by me as such by regular U.S. First Class Mail and by U.S. Certified Mail—Return Receipt Requested to:

Shirley N. Wood  
16134 South Abiqua Road NE  
Silverton, OR 97381

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of November 1998.

By: Charlene A. Smith  
Charlene A. Smith  
Secretary to the Commission